

Remarks:

1. Applicants have revised the title as suggested by the Examiner.
2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner's particular concern was with the wording: free segment ends on outermost straight portions....". Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify this as the "ends of the segment conductor", and amended the specification in order to ensure consistency in wording.
3. Applicants have further amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2 and claim 13. Kusumoto (US 6,715,199) makes no reference to radial insertion techniques as found in amended claim 1 and supported in the application on page 8, line 32 through page 9, line 3. The Examiner references Kusumoto Column 3, lines 65 ff. However, Kusumoto is merely pointing out that after the windings are in the stator core, the distance between straight portions increases as you move from the innermost to the outermost winding. This has nothing to do with the method of insertion. Applicants contend that this patentably distinguishes the instant invention over the prior art and that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.
4. Claims 2-36 have been canceled.

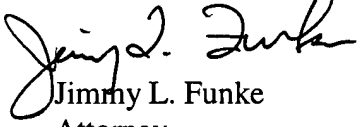
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the instant application.

Applicants believe that the application is now in condition for allowance and look forward to a timely Notice of Allowance.

Appl. No. 10/647,675
Amdt. Dated *14-JUN-05*
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2005

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0831 for any fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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